

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/622,465
Amendment filed August 23, 2004
Reply to OA dated June 30, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 3 are currently pending in this patent application, claims 1 and 4 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 2 and 3 have been amended in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicants regard as their invention. The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated June 30, 2004.

At the outset, the applicants and their undersigned representative thank the Examiner for now indicating that claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if amended to overcome the noted informalities, which are more fully discussed below.

Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, for the specific reasons set forth in the last paragraph on page 2 of the outstanding Action. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection.

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First, with respect to the Examiner's comments on the language of claim 2, the applicants have provided the requisite proper antecedent basis for the claimed clutch.

Second, as to claim 3, the applicants have amended this claim in order to correct certain informalities therein, including those pointed out by the Examiner.

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that the amendments filed herewith correct the noted informalities, and overcome the outstanding indefiniteness rejection.

As such, the withdrawal of the outstanding rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

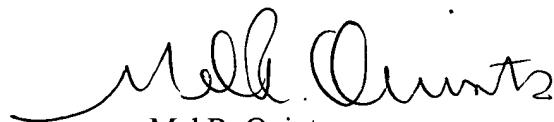
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,
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